

THE Pacific Commercial Advertiser

A MORNING PAPER.

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EDITOR

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THE DELUSION OF TONGUES.

Some two years or more ago "pentecostal missionaries," men and women, claiming the gift of tongues, spent some time in Honolulu and went hence to the Orient. About them something is heard through the Literary Digest in terms as follows:

Missionary S. C. Todd, of the Bible Missionary Society, writes from Macao, China, of investigations he has made in the three great mission-fields of the world, China, Japan, and India, concerning "four different groups of workers who have come out thinking that their gift of tongues was a language with which they could speak to the people." He adds that all of these when arriving on the field "found they were mistaken, and that they could not preach to the people any more than other missionaries who never heard of the power to speak in tongues." Some of the deluded ones have found means to get to the East only to meet disaster and poverty there. "Many who speak in tongues and feel they are called to the mission-field are wholly unprepared by nature or training to be missionaries, and yet are starting for the field." One woman in the United States wrote to the missionary that "her fourteen-year-old daughter has the gift of tongues and can speak in some dozen or more languages." This child feels called to China. Specific cases are given in The Baptist Argus (Louisville) by this writer. Thus:

"I have been asked about a certain Mr. McIntosh. Notwithstanding his statements that he expected to preach at once to the people, he has been wholly unable to do so. He must not only have an interpreter in preaching, but also in the simplest affairs of every-day life. From the day of his arrival in China until now neither he nor his wife has been able to speak a single sentence in Chinese. I do not speak from rumor, but from personal knowledge, and the personal admission of failure by Mr. McIntosh himself.

"As to Japan. While there I met a party of about a dozen missionaries who had come out from the State of Washington, on the Pacific Coast. I visited them in their home and attended one of their services. They, too, expected to speak at once to the people, but on reaching Japan they were powerless to do so. They admitted to me their inability, and I saw it with my own eyes.

"As to India. You remember that Rev. A. G. Garr and wife went there, also expecting to speak to the people in this supernatural way. But did they? They have now left India and are in Hongkong. I have attended two of their services. Mr. Garr, in reply to a personal question of mine as to whether either he or his wife had been able to talk in the native language of India, said that they had been unable to do so.

"Again, two ladies came on from the Japan party to Hongkong because they felt they had the gift of the 'Hongkong dialect.' I have seen them, inquired of their power to talk in Chinese, and they too are unable to speak."

The writer sagely remarks that there is "need of a sober looking at things in America by the leaders of this movement, or these foreign lands will be the scene of many a wrecked life and wasted service," and speaks also of the "serious situation" brought to light by "the failure of these honest but mistaken people." He lays down these two propositions:

"1. The tongue which is being given to so many in America and other lands at this time is not a tongue with which the heathen can be evangelized. None who have this tongue should for a moment think that they are thus qualified to preach to the heathen. By no means let any come to the foreign field until they have had their 'tongue' tested by some one actually from that field, otherwise they will certainly meet with disappointment on arrival at their destination.

"2. Many in the home land who are thus speaking in tongues and looking to the foreign field are not counting the cost. Their supposed power of at once preaching to the people throws an unhealthy charm about 'being a missionary.' They come out but to find they are as helpless as new-born babes; their 'tongue' proves in actual contact with the native population to be nothing more than 'an unknown tongue.' This is quite a different condition of affairs to that which they expected, and in the sudden reversal of their expectations they are aface a new situation; and one that many are not prepared for, viz., to buckle down to hard study, like all other missionaries have done, and acquire by hard and long work the language. This knocks the wind out of their sails, and at one blow a large part of the glow surrounding their supposed call to the heathen is gone. Unless they have 'grit as well as grace,' and a goodly supply of both, they are likely to settle down to a life of revulsion to all the supernatural in religion, or to idleness, or, worse still, drift into sin."

THE POTTER PROTEST.

It is hard to understand why a body of clergymen should petition Congress not to increase the navy. Even the most cloistered theologian should be able to see that our maritime police force is still too small to look after the property committed to its care. That property, on the Atlantic coast alone, is worth an incalculable sum and the navy is not now large enough to efficiently patrol the beat in case of war with a first-class European power; and there is, besides, the Gulf and Pacific coasts, the latter so exposed that, in the opinion of General Frederick D. Grant, a land force of 500,000 men would be an insufficient garrison for it.

Added to these tempting shore lines are those of Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines—Alaska being counted as a part of the Pacific coast. There is some commerce to also look after and, beyond all, away from the mainland shores of the United States are the coasts to preserve the integrity of which we are committed by the terms of the Monroe doctrine.

To give all these interests ample police protection we need a fleet as large as that of Great Britain; and as our wealth expands and our pension list decreases, such a fleet could be afforded. Though in units of Dreadnaughts the American navy is now second it is by no means second in numerical strength, which is a vital point where the protection of long coasts, insular possessions and commerce are concerned.

What the argument of Bishop Potter and his colleagues may be, is not given us to know. Surely the building of a great navy would not be felt in taxation, the usual problem of our national finance being what to do with surpluses. The possession of a great navy does not imply an overmastering temptation to use it, as the history of the modern British, French and Italian fleets attests. Navies do not conspire against the public peace at home; at least there is no instance in modern history of sufficient force to prove the contrary. What, then, is the ecclesiastical objection?

District Attorney Cathcart disclaims responsibility for not trying the Lee Let case, having passed the matter up to the Attorney General. It is now about fourteen months since Lee Let was arrested on a charge of attempting to bribe Chief of Detectives Taylor and somewhere about a year since he was indicted. Getting him tried seems to be far more difficult than it was to trap him in the crime with which he stands charged. As the Attorney General has but lately taken the case, the delay is not chargeable to him, and the County Attorney's office fairly buzzes with excuses. As for Lee Let he seems perfectly satisfied and has no reason to feel otherwise.

An independent newspaper is not one that gets on all sides of every question, nor is a cause necessarily the sign of an organ. The great independent journals of America have very definite principles indeed, but they differ from organs in that they do not take passwords from machines and are discriminating as to platforms. Papers without causes of some kind are usually superfluous; papers with them, so long as the causes are reputable, are the ones that meet the public demand. The few wobbling journals that get on, are superior on the news side, though their influence is nil.

The meeting called for March 4, a week from tomorrow, by Governor Fyfe, to consider what shall be done in the way of entertaining the sailor visitors of the fleet, is not because more definite news of their probable date of arrival is known, but to have someone in a position to get busy as soon as it is.

This kind of February would make an acceptable July.

BENEFIT CONCERT AT SALVATION ARMY

A big crowd is expected at the Salvation Army concert this evening, for which a large number of tickets have been sold, leading to hopes for a full hall.

Miss Violet Damon has consented to play; Mr. Kaai will assist; Mr. Stanley Livingston will sing, and Mr. Carlos Caceres and others have also promised to lend their several gifts toward making the concert a success.

FEATHERWORK IS TRADED FOR FOOD

(Continued from Page One.)

Professor Alexander, in confirmation of the story that the relics were landed at Kamchatka, has found references to them in the narrative of Captain James King, dealing with Captain Cook's last voyage. Prof. Alexander makes the following extracts:

"Captain Chas. Clerke, commander of the Discovery, died August 22, 1779. On the 24th the ship arrived at the harbor of St. Peter and St. Paul, or Petropaulowsky, under the command of Captain Gore. Captain Gore then sent a letter to the commander at Bolcheretsk requesting that sixteen head of black cattle be sent him as soon as possible. On the 25th, Captain Gore took command of the Resolution and appointed Captain James King to the command of the Discovery. They then proceeded to repair the Discovery. On the 29th Captain Clerke was buried with military honors on the north side of the harbor.

"On September 8 the boats from both ships were sent to tow in a Russian 'galliot' from Okotzk, with fifty soldiers on board. On the 11th they received from the 'galliot' a quantity of pitch, tar, cordage and twine, and also 140 skins of flour, equal to 13,782 pounds English, after deducting five pounds for the weight of each bag.

"While waiting for the arrival of a sloop with the cattle, they spent their time in bear-hunting.

"On the arrival of Captain Smaleff, the commandant, from Okotzk, he was saluted with eleven guns and presented with 'specimens of all our curiosities,' and Captain Gore added a gold watch and a fouting piece.

"On October 1 the cattle arrived from Verchnei, and on the 5th they received a supply of tea, sugar and tobacco from Captain Smaleff."

NET FISHING IN HARBOR IS TABU

(Continued from Page One.)

and the two boats are again lashed together and become a single craft again.

When not engaged in fishing, tarpaulins are drawn over spars that run longitudinally the length of each boat, so that it forms a very commodious house boat, where the fishermen live and sleep, quite comfortably.

These two huls are said to have been operating in Pearl Harbor for some time, but to have come to Honolulu harbor shortly after the tabu on fishing in the harbor was removed following the alleged case of cholera some time ago.

OFFICERS FOR NEW MATSON STEAMER.

Captain Weeden, formerly of the A. H. S. S. Nebraskan, will command the new Matson steamer Lurline, now being completed in the East. First Officer Russel of the Hilonian will occupy the same position on the new vessel, and Chief Engineer Barker will look after the engines of the vessel with First Assistant McCombe of the S. S. Enterprise.

WOMAN IN FAR NORTH.

A Norwegian woman physician, Dr. Julia Bang-Klinck, will be one of the first persons to spend a winter at Advent bay, Spitzbergen. No one has been brave enough to face a winter in that place until the present year, when two mining companies decided to keep at work on the coal mines. They advertised for two doctors, and Dr. Bang-Klinck and her husband, also a physician, responded and were accepted. The mining colony will consist of about a hundred persons, including seven women.

IS NOW LORD FAIRFAX.

The young American, Albert Kirby Fairfax, whose title as Lord Fairfax was recently confirmed and who has become a British subject, is not to reside permanently in England. He has recently returned to this country to engage in business with a firm in Wall street which he has been representing for the last year in London. In spite of the fact that he is now a Scotch peer, he is said to be very American at heart and to prefer living in the United States.

CHICAGO COPYING NEW YORK.

Chicago is copying New York in the matter of police uniforms. The old style helmet has been discarded for the winter and the military caps now so familiar to New Yorkers have been adopted for patrolmen, sergeants and lieutenants. Another leaf from New York's book that Chicago has borrowed is the precinct numerals on the left side of the colors of patrolmen.

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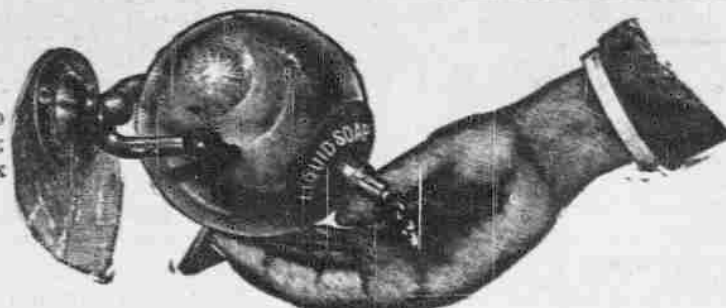
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